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ACCESS: the acute cerebral CT evaluation stroke study

Do you interpret CT brain scans within the first few hours of stroke? We run the acute cerebral CT evaluation stroke study (ACCESS), an internet based, interactive, CT reading tool designed to evaluate and improve CT reader reliability in detecting early infarct sign on CT. Readers log on to a web server (<http://www.neuroimage.co.uk>), complete a few details about background training and experience in viewing CT scans, view the study CT scans, and answer questions about each scan on the same screen. It is our intention to investigate the cross disciplinary recognition of stroke and to improve upon pre-existing paradigms in the diagnosis of acute stroke on CT.

There are 56 scans, reviewed in batches of about 10 scans each of which take about 20 minutes to complete. We will present the results of the study once it is completed later this year. Participation in ACCESS counts towards five continuing medical education category 1 credits in the UK. Accreditation was awarded by the Royal College of Radiologists, but because accreditation is not specific to RCR members, there is cross recognition between all UK Royal Colleges.

J Wardlaw

University of Edinburgh, Department of Clinical Neurosciences, Western General Hospital, Crewe Road, Edinburgh EH4 2XU, UK; jmw@skull.dcn.ed.ac.uk